



AI Classes at SHLRC, p.7



Campers and Impact Art, p.12

Greenbelters Hold Emergency Meeting about BARC Closure

by Will Hammann



PHOTO BY WILL HAMMANN

A crowd gathered in the council chambers for a meeting to respond to the news of BARC's closure. Speaking from the back wall is U.S. Representative Glenn Ivey.

Greenbelt residents met Saturday in the Greenbelt City Council chambers for an emergency meeting in response to the potential closure of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) (see story below).

The meeting was swiftly coordinated by residents via Facebook and email, resulting in a turnout of nearly 100 people, including

several public officials, crowding the council chambers.

"I want to be clear that this meeting is a grassroots meeting," said resident Aileen Kroll, who moderated the discussion, "and the purpose of this meeting is for us to talk about what it is that we want to see happen in very concrete ways."

The closure of BARC was an-

nounced July 24 by Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins, who said that three Department of Agriculture office spaces in the

See **BARC MEETING**, page 6

Seasonal Ground Bees Emerge In Greenbelt, Not Aggressive

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Last week we heard from a resident about how ground bees were being treated in Greenbelt, after seeing workers spray a nest with RAID. "While their sudden appearance may have caused alarm, most ground bees are native, nonaggressive pollinators that pose little to no risk to the public," said the reader. "Unlike wasps or hive bees, ground bees are solitary and

rarely sting unless directly provoked." We reached out to local bee expert Jay Evans to find out more.

"Ground bees are very seasonal and often confused for yellow jackets," explained Evans, an award-winning research entomologist at USDA's Bee Lab at Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

See **BEES**, page 9

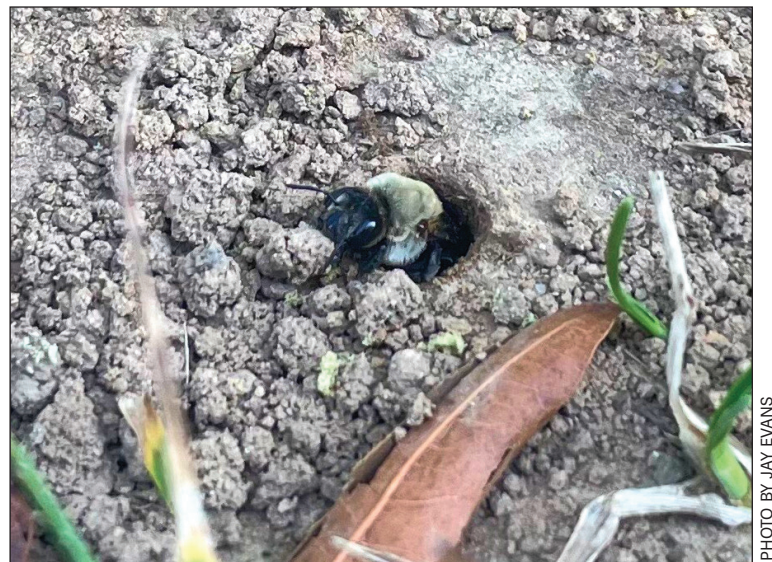


PHOTO BY JAY EVANS

A miner bee working at the lake peninsula on Friday, July 25.

BARC Will Be "Vacated" In USDA Reorganization

by Deanna Dawson



PHOTO COURTESY USDA

Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins on July 24 announced a "complete reorganization" of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that will include closing the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC).

Citing goals of efficiency and more-affordable cost of living, Rollins said USDA will be "moving our key services outside Washington, D.C." and relocating much of the Washington, D.C., area workforce to five hub locations: Raleigh, N.C.; Kansas City, Mo.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Fort Collins, Colo.; and Salt Lake City, Utah. There will also be reduc-

tions and consolidations of offices and staff.

D.C. area offices slated to close are BARC, the George Washington Carver Center (GWCC) in Beltsville, Braddock Place in Alexandria and the South Building in D.C. Once vacated, these facilities will be returned to the General Services Administration. Area offices that USDA plans to retain include the Whitten and Yates Buildings in D.C.

Beltsville Facilities

A memo that accompanied Rollins' YouTube announcement stated that BARC, a USDA

See **BARC PLANS**, page 6

Former Superintendent's Payout From PGCPs Totals \$877,578.70

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Former Superintendent Millard House II received a payout from Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) of \$877,578.70, almost \$150,000 more than previously known or estimated by news reports. On July 24, the News Review reported that House must have received at least \$733,992, which we calculated based on our projections of 24 months of his salary with annual cost of living adjustments, noting that how much it exceeded that by was unknown. The sepa-

ration agreement related to his departure, shared in response to a Public Information Act request, contained no financial figures whatsoever, leading to reporting of approximate figures, such as "at least \$730,000," by the Washington Post, for example. On Thursday, July 24, the News Review received supplemental information related to our public information act requests show-

ing that the payout was over \$877,578.

"To this office's best knowledge and understanding, the final severance payout to former Superintendent House was \$877,578.70," stated the letter to the Greenbelt News Review from Sally Robinson, associate general counsel for PGCPS. "At the time

See **PAYOUT**, page 7

What Goes On

Monday, August 4

7:30 p.m., City Council Worksession: City Manager Update, followed by Special Meeting/Closed Session: Personnel/Legal Matters, Municipal Building

Wednesday, August 6

7:30 p.m., Council Worksession: Council Operations, Administrative Processes, Committees and Rules, Municipal Building

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltnmd.gov for more information.



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

In the foreground, Creative Kids Camp participants Gwyneth McElhenny (left) and TC Sheu have fun browsing the News Review archives. In the background are James Platt (obscured by screen) and Nolan Fendlay. See story, page 12.

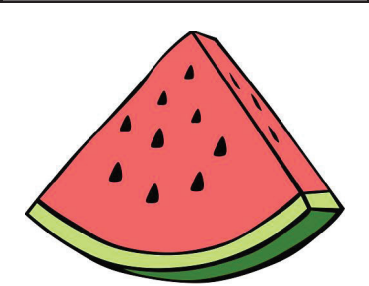
AUGUST 3 - NATIONAL WATERMELON DAY

WHAT D'YA MEAN IT'S ONLY ONE DAY?

AT LEAST YOU HAVE A DAY!

PETE REPERT

Correction
In the print edition of the issue of July 24, 2025, the name of Jim McGinnis, owner of The Restaurant Brokers who facilitated the recent sale of the Three Brothers restaurant chain, was inadvertently misspelled. The News Review regrets the error.



Greenbelt Cinema
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbeltcinema.org

Members always \$7.00!
Member kids are always FREE!

After 5 PM: adults \$10, kids \$7,
senior/student/military \$9

Before 5 PM:
general admission \$8, kids \$6

OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

I WONDER IF I COULD GET A PRESIDENTIAL PARDON?

PRR

- Pete Reppert

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

Bad Shabbos
An engaged interfaith couple are about to have their parents meet for the first time over a Shabbat dinner when an accidental death gets in the way. Said critic Bob Strauss of the San Francisco Chronicle, “Neither too ‘oy vey’ nor Weekend at Bernie’s but steeped in the best aspects of both Jewish and black comedy, Bad Shabbos is a treat any night of the week.”

Sorry, Baby
Something bad happened to Agnes. But life goes on ... for everyone around her, at least. “Tough, tender and observational, Sorry, Baby suggests that [film director Eva] Victor’s promising career has been suitably launched. The best, with luck, is yet to come,” said critic Ann Hornaday of the Washington Post.

Tomorrowland
Whenever Casey Newton (Britt Robertson) touches a lapel pin with the letter T on it, she finds herself transported to Tomorrowland, a city filled with huge robots and sleek buildings. The gifted young woman recruits the help of scientist Frank Walker (George Clooney), a previous visitor to Tomorrowland, who years ago made a startling discovery about the future. Together, the two adventurers travel to the metropolis to uncover its mysterious secrets.

To Catch a Thief
Notorious cat burglar John Robie (Cary Grant) has long since retired to tend vineyards on the French Riviera. When a series of robberies is committed in his style, John must clear his name. Armed with a list of people who own the most expensive jewels currently in the area, John begins following the first owner, young Francie (Grace Kelly). When her jewels are stolen, Francie suspects John, destroying their tentative romance. John goes on the lam to catch the thief and clear his own name.

Festival Express
This compilation of footage from the Grateful Dead’s Canadian train tour depicts the height of the band’s music and fame for five days in 1970, along with that of performances from Janis Joplin, Buddy Guy, The Band and The Flying Burrito Brothers. However, there’s also a dark side shown alongside the seminal concerts, as when the train stops, the musicians are often confronted with worried promoters, inquisitive reporters and protesting students who can’t afford ticket prices.

The Parent Trap
Twins Annie and Hallie (both played by Lindsay Lohan) are strangers until happenstance unites them. The preteen girls’ divorced parents, Nick (Dennis Quaid) and Elizabeth (Natasha Richardson) are living on opposite sides of the Atlantic, each with one child. After meeting at camp, American Hallie and British-raised Annie engineer an identity swap, giving both the chance to spend time with the parent they’ve missed. If the scheme works, it might just make the family whole again.

SHOWTIMES:
AUGUST 1st - 7th

Bad Shabbos (NR)
(CC) (DVS) (2024) (84 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 8:00 PM, Sat. 5:30 PM
Sun. 4:00 PM, Mon. 3:40 PM
Tue. 7:15 PM, Thurs. 5:50 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 5:40 PM, Sat. 7:45 PM
Sun. 2:00 PM, Mon. 6:00 PM
Wed. 7:15 PM

Sorry, Baby (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (104 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:30 PM, Sat. 7:30 PM
Sun. 1:30 PM (OC), Mon. 5:45 PM
Wed. 5:00 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 7:45 PM, Sat. 5:15 PM
Sun. 4:15 PM, Mon. 3:30 PM
Tue. 7:00 PM, Thurs. 7:45 PM

Tomorrowland
(PG) (2015) (130 mins)
FREE Sensory-Friendly Screening
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 1:00 PM

To Catch a Thief
(PG) (1955) (106 mins)
Cinema Classic - FREE
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 1:00 PM
Thurs. 8:00 PM

Festival Express
(R) (2003) (90 mins)
Summer Concert Series
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Wed. 7:30 PM

The Parent Trap
(PG) (1998) (128 mins)
School’s Out! - FREE
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Thurs. 1:00 PM

Letters Policy
Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published). Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary. All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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CIRCULATION Circulation Coordinator: circ@greenbeltnewsreview.com
HOA information at: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution

Published weekly since 1937 by the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:
- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center’s east door near the Municipal Building.

Community Events

At the Library

Greenbelt Library’s regular hours are Mondays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays noon to 8 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m.

Storytimes

Friday, August 1, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13749404.

Wednesday, August 6, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13749349.

Thursday, August 7, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13749381.

Summer Prince George’s

The Washington Nationals and the Prince George’s County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) are partnering to present Summer Prince George’s (SPG), a program for all ages that runs through August 14.

Library customers may register for the SPG challenge at pgcmls.info/summer and log reading, event attendance and online resource activities to earn badges and prizes. This year’s prizes include fun art items, T-shirts, two Washington Nationals game tickets and a free book. Customers can pick up an SPG paper card to track activities or register for the challenge on PGCMLS’ Beanstack online platform or app.

Resources

Customers can access Library resources with a PGCMLS Library card number or a LINK card number for Prince George’s County Public Schools students. Virtual library card registration is open to Prince George’s County residents. Participants can explore suggested summer reads on the Library’s Beanstack, NextReads and Book List platforms.

Passports

Greenbelt Library serves as a U.S. Passport Acceptance Facility. Applications are accepted by appointment only; schedule a 30-minute appointment by calling 240-455-5451 or visiting pgcmls.info/passport-services. Customers may call the Greenbelt Library directly at 301-345-5800 for their reference inquiries and to book passport service appointments during regular Library operating hours.

Poetry in the Garden

The poetry group will not be meeting in August. Meetings will resume September 14.

The SPACE Plans Powerful Weekend

Greenbelt’s Emerald City Pride 2025 is heating up with an exciting weekend lineup.

On Friday, August 1, come out to Drag Bingo with D’Manda Martini at The Upper SPACE in Beltway Plaza at 7 p.m. for a fabulous evening of laughs, prizes and celebration.

Saturday, August 2 brings the cozy and spirited Adult Bonfire Night in Greenbelt Park at 7 p.m. Call 240-691-3537 for location details and come ready for great conversation and good vibes.

On Sunday, August 3, there will be a Community Panel on How to Support Neighbors in Need at the Greenbelt Arts Center from 2 to 4 p.m. All are welcome to listen, learn and lend their voices.

And, looking forward, on August 10, there will be a showing of The Wiz at the Greenbelt Cinema.

For more details on upcoming The SPACE events, visit freecartforall.org or follow them on Instagram, @thespacefreecartforall.

Contribute Your Part To Community Art

Join the crew from Empact Art and the Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program for free workshops coming up on Sunday, August 3 and Wednesday, August 6. At both events, help create the mosaic skin that will adorn the surface of the new sculpture Joy, a cartwheeling figure being constructed for the Braden Athletic Complex. This activity is fun and accessible for participants of all levels, though younger participants may need the support of a collaborating adult. All workshops will take place at the Community Center. Sunday, August 3 is an Artful Afternoon, and the all-ages workshops on this date will meet in the Ground Floor East space starting at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Enter by the flagpole off the traffic circle. The Wednesday, August 6 event is offered especially for seniors. Co-hosted by the Greenbelt Golden Age Club, this workshop will meet in Room 201 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Guests are encouraged to sign up in advance for either workshop at sugeni.us/VBCo.

Rage against Regime Saturday, August 2

A protest against the actions of the current administration is scheduled for Saturday, August 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Greenbelt and nationwide.

Protestors are encouraged to assemble at the Spellman Overpass and stay as long as they want.

They are encouraged to bring signs, noisemakers, musical instruments, friends, neighbors and respect for an orderly protest. A core principle behind these events is a commitment to nonviolent action. Weapons of any kind, including those legally permitted, should not be brought.



Financial Literacy Class Saturday, August 2

Favor’s Table presents a Financial Literacy Class: Wealth Creation, Protection and Wealth Transfer, this Saturday, August 2 from 3:30 to 4 p.m. at 6215 Greenbelt Road, Room 205 (the tall building beside McDonald’s, second floor).

This class is for adults and new people who have not attended the class before. Text 202-468-2049 to sign up by Friday, August 1. Bags of food will be prepared for those who confirm their attendance.

Favor’s Table also presents Workforce Development/Training, including resumé writing, mock interviews and job search/job placement assistance, every Monday from 1 to 3 p.m. and Wednesdays from 2 to 4 p.m. at the same venue. This class is for adults only. Food, clothes, bras and shoes will be given out at the end of class. Text 202-468-2049 to sign up.



PTA Book Sale

Declutter and support a local elementary school. For those whose bookshelves are overflowing, the Greenbelt Elementary School PTA will be collecting used books to sell at its Annual Used Book Sale at the Labor Day Festival.

Book donations will be accepted on Saturdays, August 9 and August 23, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church, 135 Crescent Road. All books (except manuals, encyclopedias and dictionaries) as well as CDs, DVDs, records, puzzles and games will be accepted.

For more information, visit tinyurl.com/GES-PTA-Book-Sale, or email questions to booksalegespta@gmail.com.

March in the Parade On Labor Day

The Festival Parade will take place on Monday, September 1 from 10 a.m. to noon. The parade route is along Crescent Road, from Greenhill Road to Southway. Organizations, clubs and other groups are encouraged to participate. Visit greenbeltlaborday.com/parade for more information and to register.

Labor Day Applications For Information Day

The Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee is now accepting applications for Information Day, which will take place between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturday, August 30 in Roosevelt Center. Organizations, clubs, businesses and other groups are invited to share information with the public. Find out more and register at greenbeltlaborday.com/get-involved/information-day.

Bilingual Story Time At SHL Rec Center

On Friday, August 8 at 10:30 a.m. at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) with the Prince George’s County Memorial Library System will present engaging, lively stories and activities for young children and their caregivers to help build early literacy skills. This monthly program is an introduction to reading aloud to children as a way to instill the love of literature. After the readings, the children can stay and play with balls in the gym. There will be free children’s books and free healthy, nutritious snacks. Come, and spread the word to friends and family.

Los Niños Leen y Juegan

El viernes 8 de agosto a las 10:30 a.m. en el Centro Recreativo de Springhill Lake, RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) con el Sistema de Bibliotecas Conmemorativas del Condado de Prince George’s presentarán interesantes historias y actividades divertidas para niños pequeños y sus cuidadores, para ayudar a desarrollar las habilidades de alfabetización temprana. Este programa mensual es una introducción a la lectura en voz alta a los niños como forma de inculcar el amor por la literatura. Después de las lecturas, los niños pueden quedarse y jugar con pelotas en el gimnasio. Habrán libros infantiles gratis y aperitivos saludables y nutritivos. Como dijo un padre al irse, “Fue muy bueno!” Únete a nosotros, y corra la voz a amigos y familiares.

Greenbelt Chess Club Meetings for August

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Tuesdays, August 12, 19 and 26. The meetings will be held at the Youth Center from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels. To be added to the club’s mailing list, go to tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m and complete the brief form. Email questions to greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com.

More Community Events
are located throughout the paper.



Featured Programming on Greenbelt Access Television
★ August 2025 ★
Verizon FiOS Channel 19 • Comcast Channel 77 • Streaming Online at GreenbeltAccessTV.org

New Productions

New artist spotlight series The Greenbelt Groove premieres with special guest Eli Lev!
Weekly updates on Summer of Pride events and happenings, courtesy of The SPACE’s Shaymar Higgs!
Awe-inspiring, side-splitting animated and live-action productions from the Creative Kids Campers!
Coverage of Camp Encore’s Summer production of Fools & Faeries!
Another amazing interview segment from special guest host Doll, featuring very special guest Dr. Mildred Muhammad!
Prince George’s Summer Run Series coverage!

All this and more on our cable channels, online streaming, and YouTube channel. As

This Week at the New Deal Café

Celebrating 30 Years in Greenbelt, 1995-2025!

BECOME A MEMBER!*



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD
Monday, 9am-9pm; Tuesday—Thursday, 9am - 10pm; Friday/Saturday, 9am – 12midnight;
Sunday, 9am – 9pm

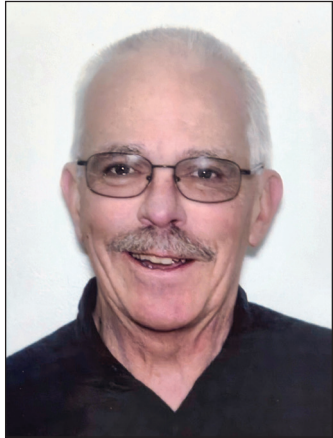
TH 7/31	FRI 8/01	SAT 8/02	SUN 8/03	
FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Name That Tune! 6:30 - 8:30pm Bring your music-loving friends & compete for prizes!	D’Vibe and Conga 8 - 11pm A blues, funk, rock group from Bowie, Md.	Bad Influence 8 - 11pm Breathes new life and fresh energy into blues and roots music	ART RECEPTION, 1-3pm Brother Bill Quintet 6 - 8pm Blues and gospel inspired jazz performances from the 50’s and 60’s	
MON 8/04	TUES 8/05	WED 8/06	TH 8/07	New Deal Cafe
MONDAY MAUVEYNESS KARAOKE 6 - 9pm LIVE BAND!	S.A.W. Open Mic 6 - 9:30pm Sign-ups at 6pm Featured act plays 8 - 8:30pm	The Campfire Sessions 7 - 9pm Featured: Rick Mowatt & Suzanne Brindamour	FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Wolf’s Blues Show & Sit-In Jam 6:30 -10pm Big, bodacious boogie blues jam	IT’S THE CAFE’S 30TH ANNIVERSARY! Visit our donations page to help fund our October celebration festival!

*Join NDC! Go to [NewDealCafe\(dot\)com](http://NewDealCafe(dot)com), click on “ABOUT”, then “BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW.”

FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR.
DON’T FORGET TO TIP THE BANDS!

Obituaries

Douglas Johnson



Douglas Michael Johnson

Douglas Michael Johnson died at his home in Greenbelt on Monday, July 21, 2025.

Born on May 29, 1947, in Denver, Colo., Doug grew up in Denver before moving to College Park for elementary school. He graduated from Northwestern High School, then attended the University of Maryland, where he earned a bachelor's degree in education. He completed his master's in education at Geoge Washington University, then returned to the University of Maryland for his doctorate in human development.

During this time, he worked as a clinician, leader and co-director of the Children's Health and Developmental Clinic, which his father began at the University of Maryland. Doug taught for several years in Prince George's County before becoming the educational director at the Chesapeake School in Annapolis. He moved into the hospitality industry as assistant general manager at Rip's Country Inn for 24 years before retiring.

Doug was a good man, loyal friend and loving husband, who married Winifred Kuebler in 1981. They moved from Seabrook to GHI in 1983, where they happily resided for 42 years.

He will be missed by the GHI community, his families and friends. Doug was a visible presence all around Greenbelt, visiting neighbors in the 4 Court of Ridge Road, at the Fitness Center, working in his garden plot, shopping at the Co-op on his more than daily trips, walking around the Lake at Buddy Attick Park or checking out produce at the Farmers Market, which he rarely missed.

Doug was survived by Win Johnson, his wife of 44 years; sister Traci Johnson and her twins Josey and Zoe; niece Lydia Filazola and family; many Blum relatives spread around the country; Gregory Rankin and Kirby Willis, whom he considered brothers; and Jamaican family members Barrington McNeil, Kadian McNeil and husband Stephen Ellis, June McNeil and son Zedaine, and Jasmine and Ted Wood.

Doug was preceded in death by his parents Warren Russell Johnson and Rose Marie Blum Johnson and Jamaican family member Winsome McNeil.

As he requested, there will be no organized service. There will be small group gatherings of friends from Doug's many activity and interest groups – sharing a meal around a table, having a conversation around a plot firepit or sipping rum and tonic on Negril Beach.

In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to the Greenbelt Animal Shelter, Co-op or Farmers Market.

Gerald Roper



Gerald (Jerry) Roper, Sr.

Gerald (Jerry) Roper, Sr., 77 of Greenbelt, died on July 25, 2025, at his home after years of battling colon cancer.

He was born on February 28, 1948, in Washington, D.C., and was the son of John and Geraldine Roper. After joining the Army and serving in the Vietnam War, he resided in Prince George's County where he worked as an HVAC technician.

Jerry is survived by his wife of 35 years, Rebecca Wittig, and two sons, Callum and Gerald Jr. of Greenbelt. He is also survived by two sisters, Jackie Holohan (John) and Joan Kinze, sister-in-law Cathy Wittig-Donald, and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brothers Lawrence and John, and a sister Sherrienne DiSabatino.

A service for Jerry will be held on Sunday, August 3, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 14900 Annapolis Road, Bowie at 2 p.m.

Bernice Kastner



Bernice Kastner

Bernice Bloom Kastner died on May 31, 2025, after a brief illness. She was born to Leah and Israel Bloom on May 4, 1931. The older sister of Dorothy Laufer and the younger sister of Myer Bloom, Bernice grew up in Montreal and attended an all-girls school, Baron Byng High School, where she was elected class president. After graduating from high school, she applied to McGill University and, in 1951, was the first woman to graduate from McGill with honors in mathematics and physics.

She married Sidney O. Kastner

See **OBITUARIES**, page 8

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
6905 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770
www.myholycross.org
Sunday Worship: 9:30 A.M.
Bible Study: 11:15 A.M.

Thursday Thrift Store
10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.



Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors

Find us on  facebook.com/mowattumc

301-474-5410

Pastor Evelyn Romero

Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Season of Rest



St. John's Episcopal Church

11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704

301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org

Welcomes you each Sunday for

Worship & Sunday School

at 10:00 AM



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH

One Hillside Road

Join Us Sunday

10:15 AM for Worship

www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

We Are an Open and Affirming Church



ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

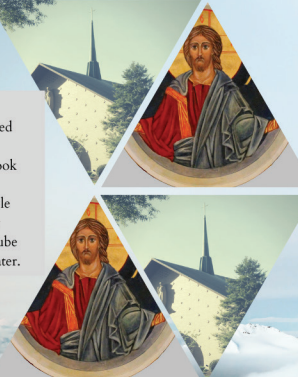
- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm.

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd.

www.sthughofgrenoble.org



*Live streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.

Our condolences to Win Johnson, as well as other family, friends and neighbors of Douglas Johnson.

Our condolences also to the family, friends and former students of Dr. Bernice Bloom Kastner.

And sympathy to the family and friends of Vietnam veteran Jerry Roper.

Congratulations to Colby Francoeur who successfully defended his Ph.D. dissertation, Quantification, Modeling, and Field

Campaign Analysis of U.S. Oil and Gas Primary and Secondary Emissions, on June 30 at the University of Colorado. A 2014 graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School and a 2018 graduate of the University of Maryland with a degree in chemical engineering, Colby has been living in the Denver area for the past six years and hopes to continue his career there.

Send details of your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Colby Francoeur defends his dissertation.



"The fundamentals of the whole economic condition are divine in nature and are associated with the world of the heart and spirit." – 'Abdu'l-Bahá

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

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The Bible Says...

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August 3, 2025, at 3 p.m.

Is College Still Worth It? Reflections on 30 Years of Study and Change in Higher Education

Ken Redd with Worship Associate Carol Boston

For many years, higher education has generally supported values of equity, pluralism, and transformation. Is that still so today? Join Ken Redd, Senior Director, Research and Policy Analysis at the National Association of College and University Business Officers, in a consideration of the changing ways that people have come to regard the value and purpose of a college education.

Streaming on PBUUC's Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD





City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

MEETINGS FOR AUGUST 4-8

- Monday, August 4 at 7:10pm, **ADVISORY BOARD INTERVIEW**
- Monday, August 4 at 7:30pm, **WORK SESSION - CITY MANAGER UPDATE**
- Monday, August 4 (immediately following work session), **SPECIAL MEETING/CLOSED SESSION – PERSONNEL /LEGAL MATTERS**
- Tuesday, August 5 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES**, *On the Agenda: Continue Discussion of Possible Tree Tour as Part of Fall Fest 2025, Discuss a Possible Tree Planting in the Food Forest in the Fall 2025*
- Wednesday, August 6 at 7:10pm, **ADVISORY BOARD INTERVIEW**
- Wednesday, August 6 at 7:30pm, **WORK SESSION - COUNCIL OPERATIONS: ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESSES, BOARDS/ COMMITTEES, AND RULES**
- Thursday, August 7 at 7 pm, **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**, *On the Agenda: Stewardship: Updates and discussion, Reported Proposal to Close BARC, Trail Mapping and Entrance Signage , Possible Gate on Northway Road , Prep for Pumpkin Walk , Prep for Labor Festival*

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

FEATURED PET - ROSE

Ready for Adoption? Call (301) 474-6124.

Her name may be Rose, but this sweet lady has no thorns! 11-year-old Rose was surrendered a few weeks ago after living with her previous owners her whole life. She was pretty scared being back at the shelter, but Rose really blossomed! She is SO affectionate and warms up to new people quickly with loud purrs and asking for belly rubs. Since Rose can be nervous in new or loud environments, she may do best in a quieter home.



If you're interested in meeting this sweet Rose, call (301) 474-6124 or email animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov!

JOIN THE CHARTER REVIEW TASKFORCE

Are you passionate about shaping the future of our city? Do you want to have a say in how our local government operates? Now is your chance to make a difference!

The City of Greenbelt is forming a Charter Review Task Force to evaluate and recommend changes to our city's charter. We are looking for dedicated residents who are eager to contribute their time and expertise to this important process.

Submit an application at the following link: <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/boards-committees/application-for-appointment-to-boards-and-committees>.

For more information or to apply, please contact City Clerk at banderson@greenbeltmd.gov or (301) 474-3870.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

In the City of Greenbelt, we remain committed to embracing and celebrating the diversity of all. As our nation undergoes change, feelings of pride, uncertainty, and even fear may arise. Yet, we stand firm in the pledge that has defined Greenbelt since its inception and will not falter.

Learn more at <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/know-your-rights-immigration-resources>.

COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE TOWN HALL

Thursday, August 14, 7-8:30pm

Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road

Greenbelt Residents Invited to August Town Hall on Community Questionnaire Updates.

The City of Greenbelt's Constituent Services Coordinator, in partnership with the Community Relations Advisory Board, invites all residents to a public town hall for a discussion on the community questionnaire. This discussion will focus on proposed updates to the City's biennial community questionnaire. This is an opportunity for residents to review and provide feedback on changes aimed at improving how the City collects data and responds to community needs. Your voice matters—help shape how Greenbelt listens and serves!

Contact Gizelle Alvarez at gvalvarez@greenbeltmd.gov for more information.

PINK PANTRY

The Pink Pantry provides free menstrual products to Greenbelt residents, including pads, tampons, and wipes from trusted brands like Cora, Always, Rael, HoneyPot, and more!

To receive these products, register by contacting Brendy Garcia at (202) 670-6497 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

BACK TO SCHOOL HEALTH FAIR FOR GREENBELT FAMILIES

Tuesday, August 19 from 10 am - 1 pm

Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane

Join us for a fun and resource-packed Back to School Health Fair! Must be a Greenbelt resident.

To register, contact Brendy Garcia at bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS 101

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 10 AM - 12 PM

Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent Road

Join Greenbelt's Environmental Coordinator and Park Rangers as we learn about the habitat, life cycles, and identifying characteristics of turtles, snakes, frogs, and more!

Email kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov or visit our [Sign-up Genius page](#).

SAVE AS YOU THROW TOWN HALL

Thursday, August 7 at 7:30 pm

Virtual Only, [Zoom](#) Info Below

This town hall will provide an opportunity for residents who receive City of Greenbelt waste collection services to learn about the proposed Save as You Throw (SAY T) pilot program and ask questions. SAY T will change the fee structure for trash services to a unit-based model where you pay based on the quantity of trash you throw away. (Recycling processes will remain unchanged.) This pricing system works more like utilities such as water or electricity, and allows residents to save money if they reduce the amount of refuse they generate. The town hall will be virtual only, connection information below.

Zoom Information (Passcode:036795):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89823410988?pwd=hyVqt9irJ6cxgUYRAh6aZux2JJdVxa.1>.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

CCI Block Party. August 9, 12-3pm, 7615 Ora Glenn Dr
Join a Summer Celebration during CCI's Block Party with free games, food, and prizes! Register for FREE at <https://ow.ly/AKxo50Ww2Jo>.

10th Annual Palmer Park Block Party & Resource Fair. August 9, 11am-2pm, Parkview Baptist Church, 7900 Oxman Dr.
Please join Senator Alonzo Washington for the 10th Annual Palmer Park Block Party & School Resource Fair! There will be free food, entertainment, community resources, and school supplies.

Back to School Backpack Giveaway with Senator Alonzo Washington. August 10, 1 pm, SDA Seabrook, 8900 Good Luck Rd
In collaboration with the Seabrook SDA Church, please join Senator Alonzo Washington for a back-to-school Backpack Giveaway!

Career Relaunch Initiative. August 14, 7pm, SDA Seabrook 8900 Good Luck Rd
Register for Free: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfcEsHeURYwholJWRzNv4lbFev6frQgD34YVo8NQ8plRQ7XDw/viewform>.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

By Section 3-305(b)(1), (3), (7) and (8) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Monday, August 4, 2025, immediately following the Council Work Session – City Manager Update, in the Council Chambers, 1) To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; 2)to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto; 3) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter; and 4) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Annexation, Legal Matters, Pending Litigation, and Personnel Matters.

** The public may attend the Special Council Meeting of the City Council immediately before the closed session and observe the vote of the Council to move into the closed session on Monday, August 4, 2025*

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

NOTICE OF CONSTRUCTION FOR ARPA PED/BIKE PROJECTS

Throughout the month of July, 2025, a City contractor will begin construction on new and updated pedestrian ramps in advance of Public Works installing marked mid-block crosswalks. Construction will occur in the vicinity of the following five locations and will include removal of parking spaces both for construction and for establishing safe sight distances at the new crosswalks.

- Southway, between Crescent Road and Ridge Road
- Ridge Road, between 31 Ct. and 33 Ct.
- Ridge Road, at the pathway between 33 Ct. and 35 Ct.
- Ridge Road, at the pathway adjacent to 43 Ct.
- Hillside Road north of Crescent Road

Please contact Jaime Fearer, Assistant Director of Planning, with questions at jfearer@greenbeltmd.gov or (240) 542-2040.

FREE Mobile Document Shredding, E-waste, and Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Disposal

Must be in line by 1 PM to receive service.

- **August 16**, Largo Government Center, 9200 Basil Court, Largo
- **September 13**, Accokeek Library, 15773 Livingston Road, Accokeek
- **September 27**, Surrattsville High School, 9200 Basil Court, Clinton
- **October 11**, Dr. Henry Wise High School, 12650 Brooke Lane, Upper Marlboro
- **October 25**, High Point High School, 3601 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville

See list of accepted items at environment.mypgc.us/wastefacilities

DFA Northern Prince George's County Presents

FREE WEBINARS

Thursdays at 7 pm, Zoom

These webinars are offered by the Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) program and begin at 7:00 PM via GoTo Webinar.

- Sept 11:** Enhancing Communication with a Person with Dementia
- Sept 25:** When Words Fade: Caring for Someone with Dementia
- Oct 9:** Brain Health
- Oct 23:** Medicare Options for 2026
- Nov 6:** When is it More than Forgetfulness
- Nov 13:** A Deep Dive Into The Five Dementias

For more information or to register, contact Brendy Maddox at (202) 670-6497 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

A majority (or quorum) of Greenbelt City Council members may attend community organization meetings, but no official Council action will be taken at these meetings. Please note that meeting locations may change after being published. For information on how to join these meetings, contact the respective organization directly.

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.



COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Advisory Committee on Education, Advisory Committee on Trees, Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Charter Review Task Force, Community Relations Advisory Board, Ethics Commission, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, or Youth Advisory Committee** and make a difference in Greenbelt!

Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

ARTS HAPPENINGS

Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts for more information and many other opportunities!

Sign up for ARTFANS, a weekly e-newsletter, at www.greenbeltmd.gov/list.aspx.

FREE Mosaic Workshops. Help create the colorful mosaic surface that will adorn a joyful new sculpture being created for the Braden Athletic Complex! Su, 8/3 Artful Afternoon, 1pm and 2pm. All ages! Seniors: enjoy a special workshop on W, 8/6, at 11:30am. Use the tabs at the top to sign up for either date here: sugeni.us/VBCo.

Creative Kids Camp Performs "Memory Quest in Central Park". 8/1, 10am & 2:15pm, *Greenbelt Community Center.* A group of young cousins explore the famous park, hoping to retrieve memories for their grandmother. For FREE tickets, visit the Greenbelt Community Center business office or call (301) 397-2208, starting on July 29. Final performances on 8/15.

MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

- **Circus Camp Presents Under the Big Top**
8/1, 1pm, *Greenbelt Community Center.* For FREE tickets, contact the Community Center business office starting on July 28.
- **Artful Afternoon**
8/10, 1:30pm, *Springhill Lake Recreation Center.* Enjoy a FREE make-and-take mosaic activity! Sign up here: sugeni.us/VabW.
- **Motiva Public Art Dedication**
8/10, 1pm, *Motiva Entrance.*

TAKE CONTROL TO REDUCE SPAM: CHOOSE YOUR TOOLS OF EMPOWERMENT

Learn how to spot and reduce spam, increase your cyber awareness, and discover tools to protect your personal information. Presented by Aileen Kroll, a long-time advocate for seniors and persons with disabilities. Aileen has served as a dedicated social worker and, after attending law school, has continued her advocacy through legal and community support.

Together, we'll explore how to support one another and build a stronger, more informed community.

Contact Priya Gardner Lemieux at pgardner@greenbeltmd.gov, (240) 542-2056.

CAREGIVER NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Your feedback will help us better understand your needs and how we can support you. Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/4e5F6ds to get started! **The deadline to complete the survey is September 3.**

For more information, contact Brendy Garcia at (202) 670-6497 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

Brought to you by Dementia Friendly America, The Maryland Umbrella Group, Prince George's County Health Department, and the City of Greenbelt.

What’s Happening at Greenbelt Park? Service Cuts Spark Concern

by Anna Bedford-Dillow and Diya Shah

Despite national cuts to Parks Service staff and budget, Greenbelt Park is open and operational, continuing to offer trails, playgrounds, picnic areas and a year-round 172-site campground. The park, considered a “hidden jewel” within the Capital Beltway, is still welcoming visitors even as concerns grow nationwide about how federal workforce reductions and spending cuts may affect national parks.

Twenty-four Percent Staff Cut
A statement from the National Park Service Office of Communications (NPS/OC) to the News Review this spring said seasonal workers were still being hired for the National Parks but this month the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) reports that parks have been seeing record-breaking numbers of visitors while dealing with “unprecedented staffing shortages.” In a July 3 press release the NPCA said, “Since the Trump administration took office, the National Park Service (NPS) has lost 24 percent of its permanent staff, a staggering reduction that has left parks across the country scrambling to operate with bare-bones crews. The park staff who remain are being asked to do more with less, and it’s simply not sustainable.” Staff at Greenbelt Park told the News Review they couldn’t comment on whether or not there have been staffing cuts impacting them.

On July 8, Jasmine Shanti, communications and community engagement officer with the National Park Service, National Capital Region, told the News Review, “National Capital Parks – East has hired seasonal staff to help us keep delivering great visitor experiences at Greenbelt Park. We don’t comment on individual staffing decisions or internal personnel actions, but we can share that Greenbelt Park remains open and staffed with a mix of permanent employees and seasonal personnel. We’re focused on making sure everyone who comes to Greenbelt Park has the chance to explore and connect with this incredible place. The park continues to welcome visitors, maintain essential operations and offer a high level of public engagement. Visitors can continue to expect meaningful and memorable experiences at Greenbelt Park.”

On Tuesday, July 8, the Supreme Court ruled that the Trump administration may resume the reorganization and reductions in force at federal agencies, including at NPS.

Funding Cuts
Meanwhile, President Trump’s recent Big Beautiful Bill rescinds \$267 million in Inflation Reduction Act dollars that were intended for National Parks staffing. On Thursday, July 3, Trump signed an Executive Order calling for noncitizen visitors to be charged more to visit the parks, looking to raise revenue for parks from a new source.



The entrance to Greenbelt Park

Greenbelt Park
Greenbelt Park, and others nearby, have no fees to visit. You’d have to go further afield, to Fort McHenry or Great Falls, to find a park that charges a fee and sells America the Beautiful parks and recreational passes, a Park Ranger told the News Review. Greenbelt Park does charge a campground cost, which is \$20 a night. There are two temporary closure alerts in effect at the park. The south parking lot of Greenbelt Park closed to vehicles on May 9 while a bollard that prevents vehicles from driving down the trail is repaired. It’s scheduled to reopen October 1. In addition, two restrooms at Greenbelt Park – the Holly Picnic Area Restrooms and Laurel Picnic Area Restrooms – are currently closed, though the picnic

areas remain open. Those two bathrooms, in the north end of Greenbelt Park, are affected by a problem with the sewer line that drains both. They are scheduled to be closed through November 15, which was announced along with closures at three more National Capital Parks – East locations. The announcement from NPS said the closure of these restrooms is to protect public health and safety and will allow maintenance staff to attempt repairs during the summer. “Significant alteration in the public use pattern” is not expected, according to NPS. Greenbelt’s bathroom repairs are in the contracting stage now. Meanwhile, the Sweetgum picnic area still has a working restroom, there’s also a comfort station in the park and the half a dozen bathrooms in the campgrounds are open. Greenbelt residents can still enjoy the trails that range from 0.8 miles (the Blueberry Trail) to 5.3 miles (the Perimeter Trail), along with the recreational facilities and year-round camping.

Diya Shah is a student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism writing for the Greenbelt News Review.

PHOTO BY DIYA SHAH

Students Learn About AI In Class at SHL Clubhouse

by Lois Rosado



PHOTO BY LOIS ROSADO

Students in the AI summer session at Springhill Lake Clubhouse: front row from left, Vilma Niba, Naima Eastman, Dickola Sheteolu and Brilliant Takem; back row from left, Josiah Chuks, Lilian Kacou, Asher Chuks, Ayotomiwa Akanbi and Daniel Olanipekun

A class to introduce students to Artificial Intelligence (AI) was organized at the Springhill Lake Clubhouse in partnership with BCAUSEICAN (becauseican.net), a Greenbelt-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to prevent socioeconomic disparities by equipping communities in need with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education. The class was supported by a grant from the Advisory Committee on Education, with students recruited through Deji Ayoku of CARES. Ron Nicholson, a founding member of BCAUSEICAN, learned that students exposed to coding

and the latest application development are able to improve their critical thinking, logic and problem-solving skills. Students also gain greater self-confidence and computer expertise, he says. In an effort to bring those benefits to Greenbelt students, after-school STEM classes began at Greenbelt Middle School in January 2024 (see the November 9, 2023, issue). Asia Gore is director of programs for BCAUSEICAN and the liaison for all schools and organizations they partner with. She is responsible for ensuring See AI CLASS, page 8



PAYOUT continued from page 1

of this office’s response earlier this month, all responsive records had not yet been provided for review. Since then, the responsive record regarding the compensation paid to Mr. House has been provided,” wrote Robinson. The News Review sought a breakdown of the severance payment but while PGCPs shared the amount of the payout, Robinson wrote that the “record itself is not subject to disclosure pursuant to the personnel record exemption, the individual person’s finances exemption, and sociological information exemption.” The \$877,578.70 sum is comprised of two years’ salary, payment for unused accrued leave and contributions to the former Superintendent’s tax-sheltered retirement account, Robinson told

the News Review. “The value of benefits being maintained are not reflected in the amount stated in the letter,” she said.

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Crisis Hotline's Number is 988
The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline dialing code is 988. Calls and text messages are confidential and free.

PUBLIC POLICY VOLUNTEERS
The University of Maryland's Legacy Leadership Institute on Public Policy, in partnership with the State of Maryland, is looking for volunteers age 50+ to serve as volunteer legislative leaders during the 2025-2026 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly.
The twelve-week classroom training (two days per week) begins on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, and ends on Wednesday, December 3, 2025.
Classes will be held at the University of Maryland Extension, 8930 Stanford Blvd, Suite 25, Columbia, Md., 21045. The volunteer assignment will be in the legislative offices of members of the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis.
Participants will serve a minimum of two (2) days per week starting Wednesday, January 14, 2026, and ending Monday, April 13, 2026.
For more information or for an application, contact Wesley Queen at wqueen@umd.edu.

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AI CLASS continued from page 7

that everything is organized properly and the curriculum ready. The AI instruction summer session at Springhill Lake aims to reach other age groups and provide opportunities to learn more about AI. The month-long session began June 24 and ended last week.

Curriculum

The students learned the foundations of AI and security challenges around AI. They also learned to recognize AI when they encounter it in daily life and about the environmental issues associated with AI data centers. The plan is to expand the curriculum and then hopefully by next year, students will learn more about the environmental factors. They really want students to have the right exposure because a lot of youth lack access to AI technology, according to Gore. The idea is that the more technological knowledge they acquire, the more hands-on portion of AI they can use, she stated. For example, they will be able to do coding, use it when writing their papers, organize outings to various places, use it to verify research or anything that they need to do.

Ten students were in this class. The instructors were Mamush Mesfin and Ajani Williams. Students received a certificate of completion at the end of the program.

Student Impressions

Asher Chuks decided to enroll in the class about AI because the world is moving into it day by day. The learning experience has been good. Josiah Chuks took this class, he said, “because the



Instructor Ajani Williams

world today is becoming increasingly taken over by AI. In 10 years, AI is going to control most of the technology not only in America but like everywhere, so I just wanted to take a class and learn about it.”

Daniel Olanipekun said that he wanted to learn more about tech and “something that can help my future and add to my resumé.”

Lilian Kacou confessed that his dad forced him to attend the class. Then in class he discovered how AI enhances internet use. He decided that it’s good to learn about AI and coding too. Kacou is glad that his dad got him to take the class because it exposed him to something new and important.

The students said they were looking forward to their July 24 certification ceremony.

BCAUSEICAN will be continuing after school AI and Python coding classes this fall at Greenbelt Middle School for about eight weeks. Then they will partner with a new middle school group, Gore stated.

PHOTO BY LOIS ROSADO

Obituaries continued from p.4



PHOTO COURTESY NEWS REVIEW ARCHIVES

25th Anniversary News Review staff. Front row from left: Bess Halperin, Harry Zubkoff, Al Skolnik, Virginia Beauchamp, Bernice Kastner. Second row: Rita Fisher, Thea Lovell, Elaine Skolnik, Dorothy Sucher, Dorothy White. Back row: Izzy Parker, Victor Fisher, Russell Greenbaum, Margaret Thompson, Mary Lou Williamson and Sid Kastner.

on June 30, 1951. Bernice and Sid, who both graduated from McGill, moved from Montreal to Syracuse, N.Y., to pursue graduate degrees at Syracuse University. After Sid received his Ph.D. he was recruited by NASA, and they moved from Syracuse to Greenbelt. In Greenbelt, Bernice juggled child-rearing with her own work and continued her education. In 1980 she was awarded a doctorate in math education from the University of Maryland. During their many years in Greenbelt both Bernice and Sid were significant members of the News Review.

A highly innovative and effective math teacher, as well as a longtime advocate for students’ pragmatic understanding of mathematical concepts, Kastner authored Space Mathematics: Math Problems Based on Space Science (1985, 2012), Space Mathematics: A Resource for Secondary School Teachers (1987) and The Role of Language in Teaching Children Math (2019). The latter book, written when she was in her 80s, was a labor of love and the outcome of her longstanding concern

that pedagogical neglect of the inherent ambiguities of language presented unnecessary barriers for student comprehension and achievement.

Bernice served in the mathematics departments of Montgomery College (Gaithersburg), Towson State University (Baltimore) and Simon Fraser University (Vancouver, B.C.). While in Vancouver, she assisted her brother Myer, who was in declining health. She became his “hands” in order to help him complete his memoir, entitled Lucky Hazards: My Life in Physics (ISSS press, 2014). Bernice had many passions and talents, including listening to classical music, singing in the Horizon House choir, cooking, sewing, knitting and volunteering at various organizations. She was a master knitter and for several years led a knitting group at Horizon House, jokingly called The Knitwits.

She was an avid reader; her bookshelf was full with books on the history and philosophy of mathematics and science, neuroscience and related topics. A lifelong learner, she was fasci-

nated with the topic of learning itself, a curiosity and passion that underlay her effectiveness and popularity in the classroom.

Those close to Bernice knew she could develop a narrative and deliver a punch line. In addition, she was a wonderful listener, and within her presence one sensed a true healer. She is survived by three children: Judith A. Skillman, Ruth E. Kastner and Joel H. Kastner as well as seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. We will dearly miss Bernice’s lively and intelligent mind, her laughter, bear hugs, eternal optimism and unstinting kindness.

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Senior Nutrition Program Luncheon

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunch for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. Meals must be reserved two weeks ahead by completing a registration form in person at the Community Center office, Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. There is a suggested donation. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215 with questions.



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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred July 21-27, 2025. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Greenbelt Police reported two deaths, three mental health diversions, all involving suicide, one domestic incident and one arrest involving child protective services.

Incident Summary

One juvenile missing person case was resolved. A small child found wandering from home was returned.

Armed Person

On July 24 at 10:21 p.m. near 9210 Springhill Lane, a man reported that someone had pointed a gun at him and was still outside his apartment building. Officers encountered a group of intoxicated males, with a car not registered to any of them, and a gun in the vehicle, which was towed for safekeeping.

Road Rage Assault

On July 22 at 5:43 p.m. near Breezewood Drive and Springhill Lane, a woman flagged down officers at Beltway Plaza and advised that she and another woman exchanged words while driving past each other. The other woman had sprayed her in the face with pepper spray through the window of her car, but she refused any medical attention.

Assault

On July 23 at 9:08 p.m. near 6227 Springhill Court, a man was assaulted somewhere in Franklin Park, but refused to say where or what happened.

Burglary

On July 21 at 12:39 a.m. near 7495 Greenbelt Road, an alarm company alerted the police to a forced entry at the front entrance of a business; several items were stolen.

On July 24 at 10:48 a.m. near 7501 Greenway Center Drive, someone entered by force and rummaged through an office. It was unclear if anything was stolen.

Indecent Exposure

On July 25 at 12:55 p.m. near 15 Crescent Road, a man was caught urinating outside of the Community Center and then exposed himself to young camp students. He was arrested and released to Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections.

Shooting

On July 22 at 10:08 p.m. near 9118 Edmonston Court, an 18-year-old was in his room with his friends when a shot went off and struck him. Several children and adults were present in the home at the time. A family member drove him to the hospital, and no one present knew how it happened. The young man is in critical but stable condition.

Vandalism/gunshot

On July 21 at 3:06 a.m. near 5809 Cherrywood Lane, a resi-

dent reported a loud sound. Officers found a broken sliding glass door with a bullet hole in the glass, a 9mm spent shell casing on the sidewalk directly outside and a hole in the ceiling.

DUI

On July 25 at 12:02 a.m. near Southway and Greenbelt Road, one vehicle rear-ended another. The striking driver displayed multiple signs of impairment and, after sobriety tests, he was arrested and taken to the Greenbelt police station.

Disorderly

On July 24 at 5:07 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a woman caused a disturbance and was banned from the property.

Fraud

On July 21 near 5510 Cherrywood Lane, a woman was contacted at work by a man requesting the remaining payment for a purchase that the business owner had allegedly made. She transferred the money. Later, the boss told her he had not made any purchases, but it was too late to cancel the money transfer.

Theft and Shoplifting

On July 22 near 7829 Emilys Way, a woman stole a package from a front porch and was recorded on a Ring camera.

On July 23 near 6440 Cherrywood Lane, a woman noticed some of her property was missing after contractors worked on her apartment.

On July 24 at 7:53 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a loss prevention officer stopped a man from stealing. All items were recovered, and a warrant was advised.

On July 25 at 11:25 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a girl was stopped after taking store merchandise; she was released to a guardian on the scene.

On July 27 near 7441 Morrison Drive, two bicycles were stolen from a backyard; officers successfully recovered one nearby.

Trespassing Arrest

On July 22 at 12:19 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a woman was criminally cited and released for trespassing.

Vandalism

On July 21 near 7443 Morrison Drive, someone damaged the door to the fence of a backyard.

Vehicle Crimes

Stolen Vehicle

On July 26 near 5317 Smiths Cove Lane, a white BMW (Md. 01607CL) was stolen.

Theft from Auto

On July 21 near 161 Centerway, a Chevrolet Malibu was left unlocked, and suspects rummaged through the car; however, nothing appears to have been taken.

Circus Act and Musical Performances on Friday

The Circus Camp will join Creative Kids Camp (CKC) for a full day of shows on Friday, August 1. At 10 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. enjoy CKC's production of Memory Quest in Central Park, an original musical written and directed by Chris Cherry, Greenbelt Recreation's performing arts coordinator. A group of cousins explore the famous park, hoping to retrieve memories for their grandmother, who has become frail and forgetful. The young explorers visit their grandmother's favorite places in the park, including the Carousel, the Bethesda Fountain, Belvedere Castle, the Chess and Checkers House and the Conservatory Water, with additional stops at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the outdoor Delacorte Theater, where they see actors rehearse for a performance of Shakespeare Under the Stars.

At 1 p.m. see the Circus Camp's production of Under the Big Top. Under the direction of Greg May, former Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus performer, circus campers will present a showcase of their circus skills, including juggling, stilt walking, unicycle, tightrope, tumbling, clown gags and more. All performances will take place in the Community Center gym. For free tickets, visit the Community Center business office or call 301-397-2208. Tickets will be available starting July 29.

City of Greenbelt arts programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council. For more information about Greenbelt arts programs, follow @greenbeltrecreationarts on Instagram, or at Greenbelt Recreation ARTS on Facebook.



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BEES continued from page 1

Miner bees are a very common 'ground bee,' genus Andrena. Unless the distinctive yellow stripes of yellow jackets are visible, these bees are harmless, says Evans. Bumble bees also nest in the ground, and are slightly larger and create holes twice the size of miner bee holes. These might be more prone to sting if stepped on, he says, but even that is rare. Bumble bees usually make their nests in more out of the way places, unlike the disturbed grassy areas miner bees might choose. "If there are tens of holes it won't be wasps or bumbles," said Evans, "those would be miner bees or sometimes sweat bees." Sweat bees nest in the ground or sometimes

in rotting wood and are also typically not aggressive, only stinging in self-defense.

Over the weekend, Evans found miner bees on the lake peninsula. They were busily pulling pebbles from their nest. Suzanne Batra, Greenbelter and retired USDA bee expert, called them "working mothers," Evans recalls. "They build the homes, clean the tunnels then collect pollen for the eggs of offspring they will never meet," he explained. "Those boys and girls will mate next July, the boys die then and the females start tunneling."

These seasonal ground bees are "non-stinging almost as a rule," says Evans, "and will be quiet again in two weeks."



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

The path between the Community Center and the playground, areas currently being used by the city's Kinder Camp, was roped off on Friday, July 25, reportedly due to bees or wasps in the area.

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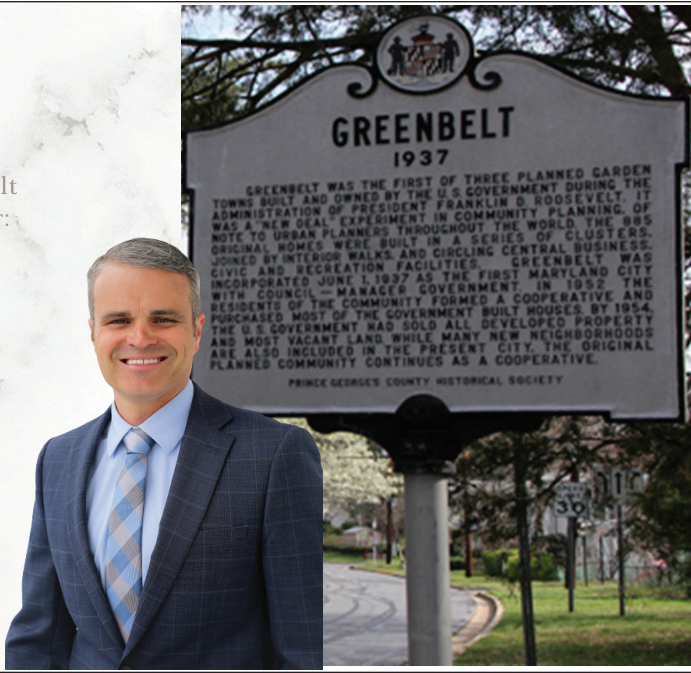
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Leaky Pipes at GHI Offices Soak Henry’s Hollow Gardens

by Deanna Dawson

Residents of the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) housing cooperative have been getting alerts from GHI management throughout the summer about water main breaks around the community. This time, however, the leaky pipes are right at GHI’s office building on Hamilton Place. Water from a break that happened on the afternoon of Saturday, July 26, had by evening already flooded the sidewalk in front of the office and was beginning to flow toward the Henry’s Hollow community garden field across the street. Although GHI was alerted to the problem on Saturday no work was done on the weekend to address it.

Monday morning saw a bustle of activity at the site, as GHI workers and contractors sought to locate the leak(s). Just last week GHI had dug up pipes directly in front of the building to repair a leak. When asked by this reporter if the new leak resulted from that work, a worker from the utility contractor Humphrey & Sons said that it wasn’t directly related but that when water is repeatedly turned off and back on, as happened during last week’s work, the water pressure changes can lead to new leaks.

Meanwhile, on Monday, the garden field was getting wetter and wetter. Although the water mostly flowed down the central garden path, it seeped into gardens on either side of the path and some plots had standing water. Water also emerged in the forested strip between the gardens and 34 Court Ridge Road, presumably outflow from the storm-water drain on the exit driveway from the GHI compound, which then flowed into and along the west side of the garden field.

GHI General Manager James Claggett Jr. said on Monday morning that the specific location of the leak had not been determined, but workers successfully located the valve that enabled them to turn off the water, stopping the runoff to the garden field. Claggett said he hoped the work could be completed later Monday or on Tuesday, but an update sent to GHI members late Monday afternoon said the repair work would continue through mid-day on Thursday, July 31.

A WSSC Water representative, sent to evaluate the leak on Sunday evening, claimed that fixing it would not be WSSC’s responsibility. Claggett, though, said it was yet to be determined whether GHI or WSSC are responsible for fixing the problem. Although the GHI administrative office remains open during this crisis, there is no in-person access to the office by members until further notice.



Water from the leaky GHI pipes has been seeping into some gardens in Henry's Hollow.



Water from leaky pipes flows down the sidewalk in front of the GHI office building on Hamilton Place.

- Photos by Eric Raun

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Effective the issue of August 7, 2025, the News Review will change its ad rates.

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The base rate (Tier A) will be \$11.50 per column inch. The nonprofit rate for those qualifying will be \$8.10 per column inch.

Discounts are available for those placing at least 45 column inches per calendar quarter.

Inserts
The price for placing inserts into the paper will change to \$35 per thousand copies for a full press run.

For further information visit www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/advertising.

City Notes

Several departments participated in a community meeting on the cemetery master plan. Information Technology assisted police with scanner issues in patrol cars. Planning and Community Development issued two building permits and inspected 21 rentals.

Animal Shelter staff handled 73 service requests and Horticulture/Parks relocated a kennel. Shelter residents are five cats, six kittens, one dog and one puppy; most are scheduled for spay/neuter treatment.

Environmental/Sustainability held an electronics recycling event and a Pollinator Circle meeting. Public Works provided 123 Greenbelt Connection rides.

Circus Camp, Camp Encore, Creative Kids Camp and Kinder Camp are in session. Summer arts classes include a pet portrait painting workshop. The Aquatic & Fitness Center reopened the refurbished baby/wading pool.

Therapeutic Recreation facilitated a Library presentation at Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Park Rangers received reports of an unpermitted party at Schrom Hills Park, contacted police and facilitated dispersal of the crowd.

CARES bilingual staff facilitated an immigration legal clinic, providing translation and support.

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Creative Kids Learn City’s History Through News Review Archives

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On the mornings of Monday, July 28 and Tuesday, July 29 the News Review office was bustling with creative kids. The Creative Kids Camp (CKC) is one of Greenbelt’s summer camps run by the city. This summer the campers are putting on Chris Cherry’s play Memory Quest in Central Park, the story of cousins collecting memories for their grandmother who has become forgetful.

Though current events spring to mind when one thinks about news, the campers learned that there are lots of Greenbelt memories to be found in the News Review’s archives. Some found themselves: winning a swim competition, performing in a play or holding a fused bead stand. One camper even found her birth announcement! Other campers looked for their addresses and the memories of their homes. One shared the news of the first Greenbelt-born baby and several found stories and photos of their parents and looked up their camp counselors, too.

In 2015 CKC focused on literary arts and created their own newspaper – the front page, containing a camp controversy about whether a hot dog was a sandwich, was printed in the July 23, 2015, issue that the current campers dug up. Then there were raised eyebrows when one camper asked what became of the Trader Joe’s that was reported to be taking over the Co-op Grocery Store some years ago – then they noticed that the date of that front page story was April 1, 2020. April Fool! Then there was more fun, looking for other issues that fell on April 1 over the last 88 years.

The campers also got to handle and try to make rubbings of the paper’s old engraved metal plates that were used to print images before such things were digital. And of course they learned the importance of precedent – how something established in the past can be important to the future. Some were amazed to learn the Greenbelt News Review had a libel case against it that went all the way to the Supreme Court in 1970, where we won and set an important precedent for freedom of the press. Last year that case was cited by a small paper in Utah facing a defamation case, which they also won (see the September 11, 2024, issue).

The News Review was delighted to host some of Greenbelt’s youth who were so excited to learn the memories preserved in our archives. We look forward to recording their stories, too.

Come to the CKC campers’ performance of Memory Quest in Central Park at 10 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. on Friday, August 1 and Friday, August 15 at the Community Center. For free tickets, visit the Community Center business office or call 301-397-2208.



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From left: Anneliese Hau-Andrew, Rose Platt and McKenna Lynch find news of their swimming, photos of themselves, articles featuring their parents and even congratulations on their birth in an old Our Neighbors column.

- Photos by Anna Bedford-Dillow



Logan Sabina and Evander Crompton try writing a story on the News Review's old typewriter.

Greenbelters Travel



Amy Knesel, Emerson, Chase and Leila Goddard (front) with the Greenbelt News Review at the Cliffs of Moher in Ireland



Greenbelter Jaky Lilly reads the Greenbelt News Review at Dollywood Theme Park in Pigeon Forge, Tenn.

Impact Art Meets Summer Campers in Public Sculpture

by Nicole DeWald

On July 28, Creative Kids Campers were joined by some special guests in their art classes. Mosaic artists Ali Mirsky and CG Duffy, of Baltimore-based Impact Art, spent the day with the campers glazing ceramic tiles for incorporation into a Greenbelt public art project. Impact Art is creating a sculpture of a cartwheeling figure that will be installed at the entrance to the Braden Athletic Complex behind the Youth Center as part of a major renovation. The ceramic pieces will be embedded in the surface of the sculpture. Camp YOGO (Youth on the Go) will also be contributing to this project.

“We had some great conversations and were happy to spend a day with the campers,” Mirsky commented. “The campers knew instantly that the sculpture was doing a cartwheel ... They got excited when we told them where it was going and how tall it was going to be [about 7’].” Altogether, the campers glazed about 3,500 tiles over the course of the day. “The most pieces that one

camper glazed was around 100 ... which was a great source of pride for the camper.” Their energy and teamwork are key to the success of the project, which will require an estimated total of 15,000 tiles.

Members of the broader community are invited to participate in free workshops in which the tiles will be combined on a flexible backing material for later incorporation into the sculpture. Advance sign-up is encouraged, at sugeni.us/VBCo. Use the tabs at the top to select a date: the Artful Afternoon workshops on Sunday, August 3 are for all ages, and the morning workshop on Wednesday, August 6 is specially for seniors.

The Braden Complex renovation, including the sculpture commission, is funded by the American Rescue Plan Act. City of Greenbelt Arts Programs are also supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council and the Maryland National-Capital Park and Planning Commission. For more arts program information, follow @greenbeltrecreationarts on Instagram.



Impact Art's Co-Founder and Colorer, CG Duffy, works on glazing tiles with Creative Kids campers.

- Photos courtesy Greenbelt Recreation Arts



Campers from the "Centaur's" group apply red and orange glaze to their tiles



Centaur's and camp counselor Eric Childress, right, work on a large group of purple tiles.